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Docket No.: 21029-00229-US
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Francois Mignard et al.

Application No.: 10/058,272

Art Unit: 1742

Filed: January 30, 2002

Examiner: D. J. Jenkins

For: IMPROVEMENTS TO HEATING
PROCESS OF STEEL STRIPS IN
VERTICAL FURNACES

AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

MS Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated September 24, 2003, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.